

Goal 5

Key Theme - Community Development

Wisconsin Extension

-- The Polk County Tobacco Free Coalition was strengthened this year by adding youth members who now outnumber adult members on the coalition. These youth brought an emphasis on education for businesses about the laws involving minors and the sale of tobacco products. Educational resources were developed and distributed to area businesses. The teens produced a video, talking about the laws and the impact tobacco can have on young people. In 1999, tobacco sales compliance checks were conducted. Sixty percent (60%) of businesses checked sold tobacco products to minors. Educational resources were distributed in 2000, and businesses were rechecked. Sales of tobacco products to minors were reduced by 30% in 2000.

North Carolina Extension

- a. Thirty different counties of the 101 in North Carolina reported organized efforts in to increase citizens' awareness of economic trends affecting local economics; to increase special audiences skills to participate in the community development process, and to have citizens use economic development concepts to implement policies promoting sustainable economic development. Eleven of these counties reported efforts to encourage the development of home based business plans, to encourage new business starts, and to encourage participation in community economic development programs.

- b. Impacts:

Fifteen Hundred Twenty One persons attended conferences where they received information concerning economic conditions and economic trends for their local communities. Twenty Four counties reported that due to efforts to increase awareness of opportunities, and improved skills of special audiences; 772 persons participated in local public hearings, 266 participated in the voting process, and 214 joined the local labor force; 527 citizens attended conferences to increase their skills and abilities to use economic development concepts to implement policies to promote sustainable economic development in their local communities. Ten new businesses were attracted to their counties as a result of this educational effort. Eleven counties reported over 560 persons attended workshops where they gained knowledge of collaborative and cooperative marketing and how to construct marketing and business plans. As a result there were 16 new business start-ups with an estimated payroll of \$79,600 and there was reported that 13 small and home base businesses developed business plans. The value to the local communities that was reported by these 30 counties was \$5.4 million.

Citizens from varying socio-economic levels gained knowledge and skills that facilitated their participation in community problem solving and in local decision-making. Local citizens (1955) improved their problem solving skills with 610 taking action and participating in the community/public policy process as a result of the training they received. A number of community issues (214) were addressed. O of those was resolved successful,

local communities were spared \$136,692.00 in cost.

Key Theme - Parenting/Child Care

Washington Extension

b. Impact: Participants gave consistently high ratings to 95% of the workshops at the event. In a six-month follow-up evaluation, 70 surveys (22 percent response rate) provided the following information:

- * 56 percent of respondents reported increased confidence, ability and skills in providing parent education.
- * 34 percent of parent educators report their programs are using new materials/techniques in existing programs.
- * 41 percent of respondents reported increased confidence and satisfaction in their own parenting.
- * 64 percent of all respondents indicated some form of personal change had taken place as a result of attending the conference.

Virginia Combined Research and Extension

Two hundred ten (210) child care providers, who received training in CPR/First Aid, child development, nutrition, and discipline, etc., met child care licensing requirements, thus improving the quality of child care in Caroline County. In Pulaski County, Virginia, 48 youth, who received Super Sitter training demonstrated a 32% increase in knowledge about babysitting; 100 % reported a greater sense of confidence to help them become more effective sitters.

Texas 1862 Extension

Outcome Indicators: A FY2000 parenting survey determined that among 58 counties reporting, 200,720 individuals participated in parent education programming. Forty percent were Anglo, 30 percent Hispanic, 29 percent African American, and 1 percent American Indian and Asian.

Multiple positive parenting practice changes were adopted:

- 8,946 learned how to provide healthy foods in appropriate amounts/age of child
- 4,251 learned to recognize the difference between wants and needs
- 3,639 reported that they provide regular immunizations and a safer environment for their young child
- 2,672 have increased their use of effective communication skills (affirming, kinder speaking, listening).
- 861 volunteers were trained to work with parents
- 21,289 hours of service was provided back to the community.

Tennessee Combined Research and Extension

Impact:

- a. Participants showed increased knowledge and use of positive parenting skills as assessed through post-tests (five counties reporting),
- b. 26 new mothers have requested additional parenting information through the Extension Service,

- c. a representative of a county agency working with low income parents stated that "through the fine work being done by the Extension office, the participants in the parenting education program have become more self-sufficient, more positive, and are productive citizens in the community",
- d. in one county, 100 % of teen mothers returned to school after the birth of their babies, and the teen pregnancy ranking dropped from first in the state to 12th in the state with no reported pregnancies in the junior high for 2 years
- e. 90 % of participants in one county indicated they are using skills they learned in the parenting classes,
- f. one mother who was ordered to attend classes reported to the judge that she thought all parents should take classes and showed the workbook she completed in class,
- g. parents in another class made the following comments; "I read to my children now" (did not read to them before training), "Now I talk to my children. Lately, I don't get angry," "One of my skills would be that I know a child gets angry, hurt and depressed just like mom," " Don't take my stress out on my children."

Funding Source:

Smith-Lever, State, State Strengthening Grant, class fees, program partners, and a Tennessee State University Creative Enhancement Grant.

Scope:

State Specific

Puerto Rico Extension

Extension Agents trained parents, families and childcare providers in parental skills and child development at childcare centers. These educational non-formal programs consisted of ten lessons (Plight of Our Children Curriculum) on childcare, nutrition, communication skills, emotional and physical development, time management, and areas related to childcare development. Each session was conducted with examples, visual aids, role-playing, and other educational methods.

Impact – Six hundred and ninety nine (699) persons attended this non-formal education program. Two hundred and thirty four (234) parents adopted child development skills and 321 parents changed attitudes toward positive discipline and responsible parenting. Also, 389 families learned and adopted skills about child abuse prevention. A non-violence TV campaign was held at state level. Twenty-two (22) persons from other agencies were trained.

Pennsylvania Extension

Impact/Accomplishment Statement

Information from The Pennsylvania Child Care/Early Childhood Development Training System evaluated the overall effectiveness in improving the quality of child care in Centre County and indicated success in four areas measured on a 5-point scale including, appropriateness of the subject (4.5); objectives achieved (4.6); usefulness (4.6); and applicability (4.7). Output data to

increase the quality of childcare throughout the state indicated that over 9,000 childcare providers were engaged in professional development activities offered through Penn State Cooperative Extension's programs. Evaluation outcome data further indicates that over 8,200 participants have increased their knowledge, skills and abilities regarding appropriate child care practices from these program offerings.

Nevada Combined Research and Extension

Cooperative Extension started Healthy Families Nevada (HFN), a voluntary home visitor system for new parents to help their children get off to a healthy start. HFN promotes positive parenting and child health and development, thereby preventing child abuse and other poor childhood outcomes. Volunteers teach childcare and development, family communication, home safety, nutrition and money management to young mothers. Doctors, nurses and social workers refer expectant mothers to the program. Interested participants can have a volunteer visit them as often as once a week. In addition to sharing valuable parenting knowledge with the young mothers, the volunteers support the mothers by listening to their problems and offering solutions.

Hospitals and Infant Support Districts referring first-time parents to the HFN program report there is a large number of non-English speaking parents who are experiencing multiple problems in addition to the isolation caused by language barriers. Nuevas Familias was developed to help Hispanic parents handle the problems of early parenting. The purpose of Nuevas Familias is to reach vulnerable, Hispanic, first-time parents and provide culturally appropriate parenting support and education.

IMPACT: As of 2000, 757 families have benefited from the HFN program. The staff worked with 58 first-time mothers and taught 33 group classes with 669 participants. The rate of abuse and neglect toward the children of participants has decreased. Only three percent of mothers in HFN had substantiated reports of child abuse in a one-year period, compared with 12 percent of young mothers statewide. In addition, most mothers enrolled in HFN complete their education, and fewer are unemployed than mothers not enrolled in the program.

Evaluations of Nuevas Familias show initial improvements in parents voicing positive feelings toward their children and decreases in abuse and violence toward their children.

One 18-year-old was a single mother living in North Las Vegas when she joined the HFN program. Her daughter's temper tantrums used to drive her up the wall and she often resorted to spanking the child to make her stop crying. With the help of a home visitor, she learned to take a time out. "Instead of spanking my baby, I put her in bed and let her cry for a while," she said. She finished school and received her GED. She trained to be a medical assistant and has aspirations of becoming a nurse once her daughter starts school.

Source of Funds: Smith-Lever & State Matching Funds

Scope of Impact: State Specific

New Hampshire Extension

Cooperative Extension conducts parenting programs teaching parents about a variety of effective parenting techniques. Parents gain friendship and support from other parents, and become aware of the many state and local resources available. Parents of all age, income, and educational levels were enrolled in classes, including parents who were incarcerated, transitioning from welfare to work, or referred by the courts. Extension reaches large numbers of parents and conducts programs in communities where parenting education isn't usually offered. This includes sending a Cradle Crier and Toddler Tales newsletter series to parents through the mail, using parent educator volunteers who are trained by Extension to deliver programs face-to-face, and by distributing videos and publications through county Extension offices.

- b. .Impact - By attempting to help families before crisis occurs, it is estimated Family Focus parenting programs saved the state \$242,500 in 2000 dollars. 1,488 parents, parenting 2,482 children, participated in Family Focus parenting education programs in 2000. Parents who attended a series of parenting classes gained knowledge in areas such as child development, child management, and effective parent-child communication. About 84 percent changed their behavior. Over half of the parents reported improved parent-child relations and child behavior. During 2000, over 9,700 parents received Cradle Crier and another 4,200 received Toddler Tales, both age paced newsletters. Close to 90 percent of the individuals and families who received these newsletters reported feeling more knowledgeable and able to talk more to their spouses/partners about their infants and toddlers.
- c. Source of Funding - Smith-Lever 3b, State matching funds, County funding
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

North Carolina Extension

- b. Sixty-eight county Extension units submitted 82 reports of efforts to insure the child care professionals in North Carolina will provide safe, nurturing, appropriate programs for children. Thirty-nine county Extension units submitted 43 reports of efforts to increase the amount of quality child care as a result of improved collaboration among county agencies, increased resource development and the education of business leaders, court officials, school and private.
- c. Impacts:
Fifty-five thousand, three hundred and fifty-seven children in quality child care demonstrated improvement in social-emotional, cognitive, and physical development as reported by parents, providers, and school personnel. Twenty-five thousand, eight hundred and sixty-three hours of training were provided to 3,610 school-age care providers. Two thousand, six hundred and eighty-five of those reported an increase in knowledge, attitude, and skill. Forty-one thousand and forty hours of training was provided for 8,109 center care professionals. Six thousand, three hundred and thirty-eight reported increases. Ten thousand, two hundred and seventy-three hours of training was provided to 2,885 family

child care providers. Two thousand and twenty-one reported increases. One thousand, four hundred and sixty-eight volunteers worked 21,619 hours at a value of \$216,190. The value of the program to society is \$5,491,454.

Three thousand, eight hundred and twenty-nine new child care slots were created, and 97 new centers/homes were brought on-line as a result of Extension efforts. Three thousand, seven hundred and eighty-six current providers increased knowledge. Extension managed \$1,448,737 while generating an additional \$794,138 through partnerships.

Key Theme - Family Resource Management

Washington Extension

b. Impact: The Money Management Advisors program and the Families Have Choices program reached nearly 300 people, with 62 percent of the latter program participants identifying as Hispanic. In Families Have Choices, participants reported improvements in all areas of life skills after attending classes. The largest improvements were noted in listening skills, handling stress, feeling good about parenting, and saying encouraging and loving things to children. In the MMA program, 98 percent of the 230 consumers reached indicated they learned at least one way to use their resources more wisely, and 77 percent indicated they had learned at least 3 ways. Over 2100 copies of each Para Su Familia newsletter issue were distributed in 2000. Subscribers reported using the newsletter in literacy programs, as part of home visiting programs, and in agency newsletters and mailings.

Virginia Combined Research and Extension

Through educational programming conducted statewide by Virginia Cooperative Extension, eight hundred eighty three (883) participants of the Money 2000 Program saved \$134,583 and reduced debt by \$745,155 for a total of \$879,738 in net family financial change.

Utah Combined Research and Extension

Brief Description: Barbara Rowe provided training on banking and credit, debt reduction, investing on a budget, and retirement planning in Millard, Beaver, Carbon, and Morgan counties. At the request of the agents, she re-wrote the successful Women's Financial Information Program into a six-unit workbook that will be complete with interactive worksheets and PowerPoint slides for each unit. A committee of agents read each draft (as well as specialists at Purdue and Oregon State University) and an attorney read the unit on probate, wills and advance directives. She provided satellite training on the new material in November (2000) and face-to-face in-service training in February (2001). She also compiled a Power Point program on Consumer Fraud, on financial services available on the Internet and written three fact sheets which are on the web: Ponzi Schemes, Pyramid Schemes and Withdrawals from an Individual Retirement Account. The first two fact sheets accompany the fraud program, the last was written at the request of an agent and delivered to two Financial Planning for Women workshops at the Family Life Center.

Impacts (short term): Agents now have more tools that they can use with their local clientele. Seventy-five percent of the agents report that they have worked with "Take Charge of Your Money" and/or PowerPay. The agent who helped develop PowerPay reports that the estimated savings in interest reported by 244 surveys returned from Extension, businesses that have used the program and the military is \$41 million dollars. Agents report that 3,457 people in their counties were involved in financial management workshops last year and 441 adopted a significant practice as a result of taking the workshops. Barbara also serves as state and national coordinator of the national Money2000 program. In the last six months of the year 2000, 29 states reported increased savings of \$10,618,271 (cumulative) and \$8,247,219 in decreased debt (cumulative). About half of the 29 states that have been in the program since 1995 will be

continuing with programming in Money2000 past the year 2000. In Utah, 214 workshop participants reduced their credit debt by at least 20%. One hundred percent of the Utah participants in Money2000 increased savings by at least 10%.

Source of Funding: Smith-Lever

Impacts: Multi-state except for bankruptcy research - With NM, CA, WA, ID, OR, WY, MT, IN, NY, and NJ.

South Carolina 1862 Extension

Impacts –

There were 2,862 people enrolled in the Money 2000 program in 96% (44) of the state's 46 counties. Participants had set cumulative savings goals of \$7.3 million and cumulative debt reduction goals of \$4.3 million. A randomly-selected sample (N=353) of the 2700 participants enrolled in the program as of January 2000 was interviewed by telephone and yielded 164 useable responses (46.5%). This follow-up survey documented savings goal achievement of \$264,313 and debt reduction goal achievement of \$151,570 for the 164 useable responses. Generalizing these results to all 2700 participants enrolled at the time of the sample selection would indicate total savings of \$4,351,482 and total debt reduction of \$2,495,367. This is a documented total economic impact of \$6.8 million through the Money 2000 program in three years (the sampling methodology yields a 5% sampling error according to Krejcie & Morgan, 1970).

Additional impact data for each of the Money 2000 projects are as follows:

Money 2000 (Adult Program) - There were 529.5 days planned and 369.5 days reported in this project area equaling 1.6 FTE's with a total of 4,142 contacts.

1. Number of activities and programs conducted.	186
2. Number of people completing non-formal education programs.	1,701
3. Number of participants reporting increased knowledge.	1,094
4. Number of participants adopting or increasing use of practices.	464

Money 2000 for Youth - There were 435 days planed and 395.5 days reported in this project area equaling 1.7 FTE's with a total of 4061 contacts.

1. Number of activities and programs conducted.	215
2. Number of people completing non-formal education programs.	2,121
3. Number of participants reporting increased knowledge.	1,464
4. Number of participants adopting or increasing use of practices.	797
5. Number of participants in the High School Financial Planning program.	137
6. Number of participants in the Go for the Goal program.	633
7. Number of participants in the Financial Fitness for Youth program.	227
8. Number of participants in the Consumer Judging program.	374
9. Number of participants in the Money My Way program.	59
10. Number of volunteers working with youth resource management programs	85

Money 2000 for Housing Goals - There were 112.5 planned and 95.5 days reported in this project area equaling 0.4 FTE's with a total of 1,113 contacts.

1. Number of activities and programs conducted.	59
2. Number of people completing non-formal education programs.	778
3. Number of participants reporting increased knowledge.	642
4. Number of participants adopting or increasing use of practices.	260
5. Number who reduced debt, repaired credit, or saved money for a down payment or closing costs.	102
6. Number saving money for repair or remodeling costs.	47
7. Number planning or saving money for accessible housing or special needs, such as office, disability.	41
8. Number of consumers setting and attaining affordable housing goals--affordable alternatives, homebuyer education.	133

Oregon Extension

Money 2000 in an individualized program to increase savings and reduce debt. The *Money 2000* newsletter was sent quarterly to participants in ten counties. In five counties, faculty trained to use the "Power Pay Program" helped individuals analyze debt situations.

Impact – 600 people increased savings and reduced debt

New Jersey Combined Research and Extension

Activity: Family and Consumer Sciences Educators developed a comprehensive program to assist families living on the financial "edge" with little or no savings and high debt loads. The statewide *Money 2000* program encouraged participants to save and/or reduce debt by \$2,000 before the end of the year 2000. The program provided participants with a free quarterly newsletter between 1996 and 2000; optional classes, a statewide home study course, and "PowerPay" a computerized debt reduction analysis and computer software program to track participants progress. In addition, program coordinators have distributed *Money 2000* press releases weekly to NJ newspapers.

Money 2000 participants are surveyed six months following enrollment and every six months thereafter to track their financial progress (*i.e.*, increased savings, reduced debt, *etc.*) Statewide *Money 2000* impact numbers and the potential impact of completed PowerPay computer analyses are summarized twice a year in June and December.

Impact: 1,832 NJ residents enrolled in the *Money 2000* program. To date, participants have reported a total impact of over \$7 million dollars: \$4,453,138 in increased savings and \$2,602,195 of reduced debt. The *Money 2000* program is being replicated by Cooperative Extension in over 40 states and was featured in the January 1998 issue of *MONEY* magazine. More than 13,000 participants from 29 states have reported savings or debt reduction totaling nearly \$20 million. A grant-funded *Money 2000* promotional video has been viewed by thousands of people nationwide and duplicated for use in over a dozen states. PowerPay debt reduction computer analyses is provided statewide. Eighteen cable television shows have been produced with estimated outreach of 300,000 households statewide. A cost-benefit analysis for

NJ participants showed that for every one dollar Rutgers Cooperative Extension devoted to Money 2000+ programming, participants increased savings and/or reduced debt by \$36.75.

Source of Funding: Smith-Lever 3(b) & (c), State, County, and Private Funds

Scope of Impact: Multistate Extension, NJ, AZ, ND, CT, KY, ARK, NV, Ha, Co, OK, NM, IN, SC, PA, NY, IA, IL, VT, VA, OH, CA, SD, MI, OR, UT, WA, MD, NB, WI, WY, LA, DE.

New Hampshire Extension

HICEAS (Health Insurance Counseling Education Assistance Service) provides initial and continuing education training of volunteers so they can accurately answer and provide free, confidential information to NH Medicare beneficiaries' questions about Medicare, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Medicare Managed Care and Long-Term Care Insurance, ultimately saving the Medicare beneficiary money

11. Impact - In 2000, 11,105 contacts were made with HICEAS trained volunteers resulting in a savings of \$95,672. The financial savings was as a result of inaccurate billing, changing coverage from Medicare to Medicare Managed Care, changing supplemental insurance policies and appealing a Medicare decision. UNH Cooperative Extension wrote an extensive training manual, updating it annually. It also develops and teaches a three-day training for new HICEAS volunteers. Continuing education is provided through an annual recertification training and quarterly newsletters. HICEAS volunteers access Extension's HICEAS trainers throughout the year to help with individual issues.
12. Source of Funding - Smith-Lever 3b, State matching funds, County funding, grant funding
13. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Nebraska Extension

Endorsed by the Nebraska State Department of Banking, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Nebraska, and the Nebraska Credit Union League, *Money 2000+* reached 105 families over a fifteen month period. In addition, local learning groups met monthly in two counties. A district-wide *Money 2000+* Financial Planning Conference was attended by 111 people at Wayne State College. Seven issues of a bi-monthly newsletter were written and distributed.

14. Impact - evaluation data at the end of *Money 2000+* collected in January and February of 2000 indicated an average savings increase of \$1,986 and an average debt decrease of \$2,318 for an average financial net worth increase of \$4,304 or a total of \$451,920 for the families involved in the program. Written evaluation comments included one woman crediting *Money 2000+* with providing the opportunity for her and her husband to "*actually sit down and discuss*" where they were headed financially. Another man wrote that he believed that, without the program, he and his wife would still be living beyond their means. Significant learning was reported by participants at the Wayne State College

event in all of the sessions held. One participant reported learning *"how to find places [where] I can invest my money on a shoestring budget"* while another reported *"finding out we are doing some things right and there are more options."*

15. Scope of Impact - State Specific

North Carolina Extension

- a. Thirty-four counties reported that they conducted programs to increase individuals' and families' knowledge of and ability to implement financial planning techniques, and to adopt best management practices that would enable them to meet their changing needs and responsibilities over their life cycle. These 34 counties also reported that they focused programming efforts toward the limited resource individual and family audience. These efforts were intended to increase their awareness and knowledge of money management practices, to change their attitudes towards developing and using money management plans, and to have them adopt decision-making practices that would help them achieve their family financial goals. Twenty county extension units reported efforts to increase the awareness, knowledge, and skills of individuals and families to adopt best management practices to extend or increase their current incomes to meet their changing needs.

- b. Impacts:
While the number of persons who actually increased their knowledge of the value of financial planning numbered 3982, the number who actually demonstrated success in the planning process was 1631. An additional 1188 persons reported ongoing success in implementing goal setting, family budgeting, and record keeping. There was an additional 664 persons who actually developed and implemented a "life cycle plan." These thirty-four counties reported that as a result of conducting best management financial planning educational programs, 946 persons reported improving their financial status. These persons reported that they had collectively reduced debt by an estimated \$108,889, and had increased their savings/investments by \$400,385.

There were 5231 persons in the limited resource audience who increased their awareness and knowledge about money management and the decision making process. 2028 reported that they actually developed written financial goals. 1654 reported that they developed money management plans, and 1072 reported that they had actually attained their goals. In addition, 1199 people in this audience reported that they had saved an estimated \$70,500 and had reallocated an additional \$38,500 to meet family needs. 806 person indicated that they had reduced their debt by over \$73,000.

Twenty counties reported that their efforts to educate individuals and families about the benefits of best management financial practices, and the techniques of how to implement these practices to extend and increase their current income reached 4891 people and resulted in 1945 persons actually extending their income by over \$175,200. There was also 1093 individuals who demonstrated appropriate decisions making regarding their employment situation and increased their income by an estimated \$365,411. Another

641 individuals indicated that they improved their self-employment situation after participating in these educational efforts by an estimated \$64,558.

Mississippi Combined 1862 Research and Extension

a. Investing can be intimidating for people who have never done it before. Recent turbulence in the stock market make it an even more daunting prospect.

The Neshoba County Extension Service was one of many Mississippi counties which started an investment club to educate residents on investment strategies and encourage members to invest their money. The Red Hills Investment Club was formed in 1996 with an initial 17 members, each committed to investing \$25 a month with the goal of doubling their money in five years.

b. By March 2000, the remaining 12 members had each invested \$1,100 for a club total of \$13,200. The club reached their financial goal with a portfolio worth a little more than \$26,000. In the process, members learned how to research companies and how to invest in the stock market, and gained confidence in their ability to grow their money.

c. Smith-Lever funds

d. State-specific

Key Theme - Youth Farm Safety

Washington Extension

b. Impact: Twenty-nine high school students, including three 4-H club members, passed driving and written tests on farm machinery safety at the Youth Farm Machinery Workshop. Six parents increased their awareness and understanding of safety through active participation. Average pre and post-test scores reflected a 7% increase in knowledge. Students learned how to start, mount, drive, and dismount tractors safely. Surveys of graduates showed an 87% correct-response to safety questions. Graduate respondents showed a 67% positive attitude toward farm safety. Because of the survey, instructors will be able to make improvements in future workshops. Local employers are now giving employment preference to graduates of the program. There have been no major tractor accidents involving youngsters in Skagit County since the program began in 1992. Quote by University of Washington Environmental Health report: "Youth Farm Machinery Safety Workshops conducted by the Skagit County Cooperative Extension office are clearly meeting a need."

Key Theme - Consumer Management/Education

Washington Extension

The estimate of 1250 total youth were reached. Youth evaluations that re completed by grant recipients show that through the Consumer Critter Crew project, youth gained skills in shopping and money management, environmental sensitivity in making consumer decisions, and greater understanding in the economic flow of money.

Virginia Combined Research and Extension

Through Virginia Cooperative Extension, nearly 1,200 (1,188) participants of Home and Housing Education statewide increased their knowledge of choosing safe, affordable housing, and preventative home maintenance. Eighty-two percent of participants practiced home repair management skills, which resulted in approximate net savings of \$60.00 per month per household in repair costs (total estimated savings of over \$700,000).

New York Combined Research and Extension Power Partner Program

Low-income, low-literacy consumers in NYS frequently find themselves unable to meet the cost of electricity for their homes. Many have a significant unpaid past due bill owed to the utility putting them at risk for the shut off of their electric service. Often they are forced to choose between paying their electric bill and providing for the other basic needs of their families. While lack of sufficient income is a factor in their inability to pay their bills, lack of knowledge with regard to handling the resources they do have has also been identified as a significant contributing factor.

A team of Extension Educators headed by Cortland County CCE worked with NYSEG Customer Advocates to develop an educational component for NYSEG's Power Partner program that would assist low-income customers in developing the financial management skills necessary for financial independence. A money management calendar with accompanying newsletters and a workshop were developed and provided to each NYSEG customer who participates in the program. One on one counseling has also been offered to the participants in Cortland County through the family budget counseling program. Additional program materials were provided to county associations for use with other low-income, low-literacy audiences who are not NYSEG customers.

During a recent statewide survey participants in the program have reported that because of their involvement with the Power Partner program they are now using a spending plan(92%), they pay their bills on time(88%), and they report having enough money to meet their monthly expenses(66%). The participants identified the educational materials designed by Cornell Cooperative Extension as a major factor in their behavior change.

Locally, of 72 active participants, 65 are current on their plan to pay off their arrearage and 12 have completed the program, thus eliminating their debt to NYSEG. Several report that they have begun to set aside money in an emergency fund to help prevent them from falling behind

again in the future. As a result of this collaborative effort, extension educators across NYS have a high quality tool to use when they work with low-income, low-literacy audiences.

Key Theme - Character/Ethics Education

Washington Extension

b. Impact: 58 4-H Leaders became familiar with the Character Education materials through leader training. 55 youth improved skills in regards to the six pillars of character: respect, responsibility, citizenship and fairness at three summer day camps. 65% of the day camp youth demonstrated respect and responsibility towards camp assistants and each other for the duration of the camp. Over 150 4-H volunteers and staff at State 4-H Forum became familiar with the various character education materials and learned different ways to use the materials in clubs and other settings. Over 250 school teachers and school district personnel became familiar with two character education curricula and participated in age appropriate activities for the various stages of youth development. Over 2000 students Pierce and Spokane School districts gained skills in ethical decision -making using character education models. Sixteen teen ambassadors and twenty chaperones became familiar with several different character education curricula. Each county delegation at teen conference received a character education starter packet to help them incorporate character education into their county 4-H program. 200 State 4-H teens demonstrated the six pillars of character through the Passport to Character: Discover Character activity at State 4-H Teen Conference.

Over 200 WSUCE personnel became familiar with the Character Education materials and resources through the display at the extension conference. 300 families learned that 4-H is more than cows and cooking and has many different curricula including character education. Daycare providers and school personnel are displaying the six pillars of character posters in their facilities. As a result of the state mini-grant program, additional counties were able to acquire curricula to support their character education programming. As the result of the enhanced awareness of the need for character education programming, the state budget for character education programming was doubled. 125 Focus on Character packets and 200 Workplace Ethics Curricula were printed and distributed to county staff and volunteers. Twenty counties are incorporating character education topics in their newsletters and radio show that reached approximately 20,000 households. Youth teen councils in at least two counties (Pierce and Whatcom) have operating procedures because of practicing the six pillars of character. Youth and adults have gained a heightened awareness of ethical decision making involved in animal science projects.

Virginia Combined Research and Extension

Comprehensive programs focus on character and leadership development, violence prevention, tutoring, parent education and family support. Alexandria County, Virginia 4-H reported that 60 youth participated in an after-school homework center to assist youth in at-risk communities with homework completions, behavior modification and skill development. Students participating have improved their grades by 30%. parents and teachers have reported that the center has improved behavior that is a carryover in the class and home and the program provides a safe environment for the child.

Key Theme - Leadership Training and Development

Washington Extension

b. Impacts: Overall, Extension delivered 408 workshops or training sessions on Leadership Development for Public Decision Making in FY2000. The training focused on *leadership for professional growth, strategic planning capacity building* and *technology skill development*. There were 4,961 participants in 15 county specific programs and in programs offered for statewide participation. As a result of this work effort, 136 new collaborative efforts were established among local government entities and/or community groups, and 604 local government and community leaders have augmented their strategic planning skills. There were also 304 low-income and minority participants who have become involved in community decision making.

New Hampshire Extension

UNH Cooperative Extension invests in its volunteers by providing training and support; the volunteers in turn invest their time in conducting and support Cooperative Extension programs. Extension multiplies its educational efforts by using trained volunteers as educators, middle managers, and as resource persons. Volunteers extend and support Extension programs in the areas of Family Development, Agricultural Resources, Sea Grant, Marine and Water Resources, Forestry and Wildlife, and 4-H Youth Development. They work in rural, suburban and urban communities.

16. Impact - Over 5,000 volunteers helped deliver UNH Cooperative Extension programs in 2000. Collectively, they gave 172,012 hours of service. Using the Independent Sector volunteer value of \$14.83 per hour, this volunteer contribution to UNH Cooperative Extension is valued at \$2,550,937. If Extension hired full time staff to equal the time donated by volunteers, it would mean hiring over 85 full-time employees. Over 3,100 youth and adult volunteers work with Extension 4-H Youth Development Programs providing learning opportunities for close to 42,000 New Hampshire youth this year. Family, Home and Garden Education Center volunteers provided over 3,000 hours to answer 8,000 calls from all 10 counties in New Hampshire. HICEAS volunteers provided answers to questions about Medicare and Medicaid; those residents saved \$95,672 as a result of this volunteer support. The state's natural resources benefit as well from Extension's volunteer effort. N.H. Lakes Lay Monitors contribute by providing local and state decision makers with information needed for resource stewardship and management. The number of volunteers in the NH Coverts Project, an education and outreach program that promotes wildlife habitat conservation and forest stewardship, has grown to 140. Twenty-five new people are trained each year to add to the statewide network of powerful stewardship advocates.
17. Source of Funding - Smith-Lever 3b&c, State matching funds, County funds, Grant funding
18. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Housing

Virginia Combined Research and Extension

Through Virginia Cooperative Extension, nearly 1,200 (1,188) participants of Home and Housing Education statewide increased their knowledge of choosing safe, affordable housing, and preventative home maintenance. Eighty-two percent of participants practiced home repair management skills, which resulted in approximate net savings of \$60.00 per month per household in repair costs (total estimated savings of over \$700,000).

Texas 1890 Extension

Impact - More than 497 individuals attended educational programs or fairs on housing acquisition sponsored by CEP and supported by TAEX, HUD, United Way, USDA Rural Development, funding agencies and small business enterprises. Sixty seven persons were assisted with housing loan applications and fifty three were approved. Ninety eight persons utilized governmental housing assistance programs. One hundred and forty three individuals or families acquired standard/ satisfactory housing. Three Community Housing Development Organizations were established, and three individuals were directed to the Educational Based Housing. The Community Credit Union based on required home ownership and credit classes, is prospering in its fourth year.

19. Source of Funds-Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
20. Scope of Impact- State Specific

Alabama Combined Extension

Rural Housing Lot Improved

Rural areas such as Greene and Hale counties continue to bear a large percentage of inadequate housing. Tuskegee University partnered with the USDA Rural Development office to assist families and individuals to improve or acquire new homes. Potential homeowners were identified and assisted with the completion of all forms necessary to apply for a Rural Development loan or grant program. Training in home management, household budgeting, dwelling maintenance, credit and debt management and other areas were provided to assist individuals in becoming successful homeowners or recipients of home repair funds and grants. Twenty-six applicants were assisted. Nine of the 22 participants have already received financial assistance. During the year, three elderly families obtained a 504 grant in the amount of \$7,500 per family. Four families obtained 502 loans in the amount of 20,000 per family for home repairs. One family was able to become a first time homeowner with a loan of \$78,000."

Key Theme - Promoting Business Programs

Texas 1890 Extension

Impact-Eight hundred and seventy eight jobs were maintained in the 278 businesses assisted. Ninety one of these businesses expanded creating an additional 206 jobs. Fifty five new businesses were established creating 215 jobs. A total of 421 jobs were created. The total number of jobs increased from 878 to 1309.

- 21. Source of Funds: Smith-Lever Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- 22. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Oregon Extension

OSU Industrial Assessment Center saves Oregon industry millions

The Extension Energy program's OSU Industrial Assessment Center helps Pacific Northwest manufacturers improve efficiency and reduce waste. Each year faculty-led teams of OSU engineering students visit at least 25 manufacturing facilities in the region to assess plant operations, at no cost to the facility. Students benefit by gaining valuable practical experience.

Follow-up surveys show that, on average, the more than 370 firms that received on-site visits have realized an annual savings of \$70,000 per plant as a result of implementing recommendations made by the OSU teams. Total savings to industry from this program are more than **\$25 million annually**.

Source of Federal Funds – Smith-Lever 3b&c

Scope of Impact – Integrated Academic Programs and Extension

Key Theme - Youth Development/4-H

Tennessee Combined Research and Extension

Impact:

Impacts of the Cloverbud 4-H program were obtained from a written survey designed to measure the behavioral change of young children (age 5-8 years) over the period of participation in the program. Six pilot counties utilized the Cloverbud curriculum and returned the surveys. The surveys revealed that more than 285 youth, ages 5-8, participated in the program. Counties also reported that participants gained 75% to 95% improvement in their socialization, emotional and cognitive skills.

In Knox County, the Cloverbud program was offered primarily to home schoolers where more than 50 youth completed the entire Cloverbud Agriculture Activity Guide.

In Knox County this group also has begun using the Cloverbud Personal Development Activity Guide. Rhea County reported that the youth participants improved their physical, cognitive, emotional, and socialization skills in science between 90 percent and 100 percent. Rhea County recommends additional activities in the area of science for teen mentors to use with younger youth. An overall composite of the counties surveyed revealed that through their observation of youth participating in the program, more than half of the youth have improved their team participation skills and have shown a greater improvement in their willingness to share with other members of the group.

Funding Source:

Smith-Lever and County

Scope:

State Specific

North Carolina Extension

- a. Ninety Extension units submitted 111 reports on long-term support systems to develop competent youth. Sixty-one county Extension units submitted 66 reports to support youth involved in targeted knowledge transfer development activities which will demonstrate improved academic performance.
- b. Impacts:
Youth demonstrated increased life skill capacity in the following numbers:
self-confident - 58,479; making decisions - 35,671; communication - 39,408; managing relationships - 31,197. Seventeen thousand, two hundred fourteen families were actively involved in 4-H through 1,466 4-H clubs. Two hundred forty-one thousand, one hundred fifty-six youth participated in all forms of 4-H.

One thousand, eight hundred and fifty-four school teachers increased their knowledge. Thirteen thousand, seven hundred and three students experience some change in academic performance, while 5,107 show great improvement. Seven thousand and

seventeen demonstrated some improvement in homework completion while 4,519 show great improvement. The quality of homework showed some change for 7,131 students, while 4,194 had great improvement. Thirteen thousand, seven hundred and twelve students showed some change in science grades, while 6,812 had great improvement. School systems reported a savings of \$144,865 as a result of using 4-H school enrichment materials.

Montana Extension

Brief Description:

Project and life skills are offered to youth through the 4-H curriculum. Youth learn knowledge in a variety of subject matter ranging from nutrition to aerospace, market livestock to photography. In addition, they learn marketing skills by developing PSA's for radio and TV or holding activities to attract their colleagues to join 4-H. Examples include the Listen Up program, Science ROCKS, Newspaper blitzes, school programs and other community events. When a young person joins 4-H, nearly 150 learning project activities are available for him/her to select areas of interest to study through the organized curriculum. Specific "how to" sequential experiences provide youth with a strong basis for being successful in their endeavors. Youth may also gain skills and knowledge through the special interest programs. They are often delivered through the schools or in joint efforts with other organizations.

Impact/Accomplishments:

MSU research indicates that Montana 4-H youth are making contributions to improve the quality of life in their families, neighborhoods and communities. While about 17% of Montana kids are not involved in any out-of-school activities or programs, 4-H kids are very involved. Over half of all 4-H members (56%) are involved in one, two or three out-of-school activities. Research shows that 4-H kids are more likely than other kids to 1) Succeed in school, getting more A's than other kids, 2) Be involved as leaders in their school and the community, 3) Be looked up to as role models by other kids, and 4) Help others in the community. 4-H youth reported that they are less likely than other kids to 1) Shoplift or steal, 2) Use illegal drugs of any kind to get high, 3) Ride in a car with someone else who has been drinking, 4) Smoke cigarettes, 5) Damage property for the fun of it, 6) Skip school or cut classes without permission. They also reported that they felt their contributions were more likely to be respected and listened to by their families, by other adults and by the communities in which they live. The study revealed that youth in Montana 4-H have a positive self-identity which gives them the confidence to succeed in life and that they feel more socially competent and self-assured than other youth. 4-H members in Montana are more likely to have a positive view of their role in the community and the future as well. Finally, 4-H youth have better relationships with adults than those who have not been in 4-H and indicate they are more likely to talk to their parents about important issues in their lives. The 11,227 youth enrolled in 4-H clubs and to a lesser extent the 17,142 young people involved in 4-H special interest activities, are more confident, competent, connected, caring and compassionate than their peers.

Source of Funding:

Smith 3b&c
State
Local

Scope of Impact:
State Specific

Key Theme - Children, Youth and Families at Risk

Tennessee Combined Research and Extension

Title:

Parenting Education for Parents of Juvenile Delinquents

Description:

In Lauderdale County, parenting education programs were taught bi-weekly to parents of juvenile delinquent children - five classes with 10 parents. The *Baby Think It Over* curriculum with infant simulator was used in junior and senior high school health, family and consumer sciences, and child development classes - 100 teen girls were enrolled in these classes. Follow-up consisted of Resource Mother Group weekly home visits.

Impact:

In Lauderdale County, as a result of the Strengthening Families programs, 100 percent of teen mothers returned to school (reduced drop-out rate). The teen pregnancy rate was reduced from number one in the state to number twelve. Pregnancy prevention classes are being taught in schools. There have been no known pregnancies reported in junior high school for the last two years. Mothers/guardians of teens cooperate to help teachers implement the use of *Baby Think It Over* curriculum.

Funding Source:

Smith-Lever

Scope:

State Specific

Nevada Combined Research and Extension

23. Project MAGIC (Making a Group and Individual Commitment) is designed for teens just entering the juvenile justice system or juveniles with low-incident rates. The program teaches the necessary skills to get them out of the system and become productive members of society. Each year, 100 participants in three rural counties meet in small groups during 10-week sessions to learn communication and conflict resolution techniques. Pre- and post-tests of 500 students who have participated in the program have been completed. Portfolios completed by the students were analyzed. A one-year follow-up study of graduates was published. The program was also adapted to the Las Vegas urban environment where 2,500 youth encounter probation each month, and to three Native American reservations.

24. IMPACT: Project MAGIC was awarded a \$100,000 grant to aid Native American youth who were members of the Owyhee tribe of Nevada. The grant was part of \$8 million given by the U.S. Justice Department in 2000 to prevent and control youth violence and substance abuse among Native American youth. Juvenile crime rates were increasing on Owyhee reservation lands prior to the grant and several youths have already been referred to the program.

Significant improvement resulted among the court-ordered juvenile offenders in the areas of decision-making, conflict resolution, goal setting and communication. Follow-up interviews of juvenile offenders one year after graduation from the program indicate that youth are implementing strategies learned in the program to help them avoid trouble with the law.

Parents participated in a self-paced educational component as well. Ninety-five percent of the parents of juvenile offenders took part in educational meetings taught by a parent educator. They reported significant gains in their parenting knowledge.

In a comparison of the per capita incarceration rate of two counties that participated in the program and one county that did not, there is a notable rapid decline in per capita incarceration in the counties where MAGIC is implemented.

The program received the 1997 National Award for Excellence at the National Rural Institute on Alcohol and Drug Abuse from the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Sixteen youth between the ages of 13-17 have attended a pilot Project MAGIC program on the Owyhee reservation. Fifty percent of the students graduated successfully and demonstrated increases in the ability to use skills learned through program. Three more students are expected to graduate from the program soon.

One 16 year old was referred to Project MAGIC after appearing in Elko juvenile court on drinking-related charges. Three weeks into the program, she became a leader. By her fourth week, she landed a job and when she graduated, she had her sights set on college and a career in photography.

A 17-year-old participant from Las Vegas said, "Sometimes I feel like doing something bad, but I think about that place (incarceration) and I don't want to go back...I've been thinking about the consequences...I'm not doing drugs and people respect me for that."

25. Source of Funds: Hatch
Smith-Lever & State Matching Funds
USDA-CSREES Children, Youth & Families At Risk
26. Scope of Impact: State Specific

Mississippi 1890 Extension

The Extension Specialists and Extension Agents conducted group meetings, workshops, field days, day camps and youth summits in the local public school systems and communities on Teenage Pregnancy Prevention, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's/HIV/AIDS), Career Development/Workforce Preparedness, Building Self-Esteem, Tobacco Prevention and Education, and 4-H and Youth Development.

Impact

During FY 2000, two thousand three hundred seventy four (2,374) youth and 140 parents participated in 44 Teen Pregnancy Prevention group meetings and workshops. In general, the

overall effectiveness of the program was assessed using a pre-post test designed by the teen pregnancy curriculum “Project Taking Charge.”

In the area of teen pregnancy, we experienced a 20% reduction in the number of youth who became pregnant. There has been a noticeable decline in the 14 counties served by the Alcorn Cooperative Extension Program (ACEP) and the state of Mississippi. From the pre-post test, over 50% of the youth who participated in the various workshops said they would postpone sexual activity until marriage or until they were in a committed relationship. Most of the objectives were met in the various workshops.

In the area that relates to Youth Health Issues, there were 49 group meetings conducted on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and AIDS Awareness. Two thousand nine hundred seventeen (2,917) youth and 328 adults participated in these programs in nine local schools and six community centers. To determine the effectiveness of this program, the evaluation tool developed with the curriculum was used. According to the objectives of the program, the main thrust of these workshops were to promote awareness and provide knowledge that dealt with the transmission and prevention of the STDs. According to the post-test, 65% of the youth participating in the workshops understood how STDs and HIV/AIDS are transmitted and prevented.

Source of Funds

The Alcorn Cooperative Extension Program devoted a total of 1.2 FTEs to the accomplishment of this educational program implemented under Goal 5. Funds expended for this goal consisted of \$33,956 from section 1444 of the National Agriculture Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA) and \$13,205 of state matching funds.

Scope of Impact

Program efforts were concentrated in 14 Southwest Mississippi counties served by the Alcorn cooperative Extension Program. The targeted audience were middle and high school students.

Key Theme - Home Based Business

Puerto Rico Extension

PRAES developed educational home-based programs to help families use their own resources and start home-based businesses; therefore, helping themselves to increase family income. This educational program suggests many ways in which families can turn skills, hobbies, and ideas into money. One of the areas that individuals and families commonly choose to develop their home-based business is the clothing specialty, a field particularly targeted by our educational efforts.

Impact – During FY 1999-2000, three home-based business projects were developed and established. One thousand four hundred seventy (1,470) persons learned about different aspects toward family resources management. Five hundred thirty eight (538) families were trained on money management, 32% (172) families adopted budget planning skills.

Source of Federal Funds – Smith Lever 3(b), 3(c) Funds

Scope of Impact – State Specific

Key Theme - Jobs/Employment

Ohio Combined Research and Extension

Description of Activities - Community Economic Development includes efforts working with local government leaders developing private/public partnership for job creation. In addition to the 18 full-time Community Economic Development Agents in Ohio, many dual program Extension professionals also contribute to this effort. Work reported here include general economic development, community marketing, business attraction, business retention and expansion programs, development of infrastructure and assisting communities in developing grant applications. These efforts represent approximately 20 individual reports. In addition, there were 4 reports working with entrepreneurship and youth, an unemployment study, general economic development plan, wage benefit surveys, and one agricultural value-added project in addition to several others.

Impacts - The total number of participants in Jobs/Employment were 8,945. This includes 4,687 under-served individuals. And 2,906 under-represented individuals. There were 3,727 volunteers (including local boards and advisory committees) participating in the planning and implementation of the various programs and 19 multi-state partnerships were reported as associated with these programs. There were 113 new businesses either started or expanded as a result of these programs. Number of new jobs were 1,342. Thirteen communities conducted business retention and expansion programs and 8 conducted wage/benefit surveys. There were 28 industrial sites either created or better prepared through infrastructure improvements.

Source of Federal Funds - Smith-Lever 3b&c

Scope of Impact - State Specific

New York Combined Research and Extension

Welfare to Entrepreneurship

Welfare Reform legislation has set time limits, eligibility requirements and opportunities to help transition dependent social service recipients to independence. Training programs need to encourage self-employment as an option to wage employment. To accomplish the goal of self-sufficiency and help communities grow, limited income individuals need to develop and enhance their personal and business skills.

Building on Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County's successful years of working with limited income individuals and helping individuals start their own business, a small business training program was designed for limited income individuals. Working with dozens of community organizations and businesses, eligible and interested TANF individuals were recruited. The small group participated in seven months of personal development workshops, technology trainings, and business start-up classes, including support services such as financial counseling. A research study conducted by Cornell is evaluating the "Making Dreams Come True" business-training program.

After completing a seven-month business-training program, seven TANF recipients have a better life.

- They are financially more stable.
 - All seven participants completed budgeting sessions, financial management classes, and credit counseling. They identified previous credit/money concerns and repaired them.
 - All seven individuals completed the training requirements for an IDA (Individual Development Account) savings program.
 - Three participants opened their savings accounts and are still saving.
- They have improved their living conditions.
 - Six individuals have moved or have applications pending to move to better housing.
- They are computer literate (and their families have access to a computer)
 - All seven completed an intensive computer training and have experience and expertise in several computer programs. Everyone in the group has a computer in their home and uses it to continue to improve their computer skills.
- They have increased their knowledge and learned what is needed to start and successfully run a business.
 - All seven completed business plans
 - Everyone was "matched" with a business counselor who is available for ongoing business assistance.
- They are now employed
 - One participant became registered as a family childcare provider.
 - One participant was approved for a loan to purchase a cab company.
 - Two individuals have been employed since graduation in positions w/ opportunities for advancement.
- They are contributing to the economy
 - Three months after graduation, six of the seven participants are no longer receiving public assistance.

Nebraska Research

Impact Statement: Pennington Seed

(Relates to Goal V, Output Indicator 6, and Outcome Indicator 3)

Issue: (Who cares and why?)

The fate of promising new alternative crops hinges on finding markets. If farmers can't sell the newcomer, it's not worth the ground it grown on. To create a value-added market for several alternative crops and aid community economic development, University of Nebraska faculty worked with Cheyenne County to attract a grass and birdseed company to Sidney, NE.

What has been done?

As part of a long-term commitment to developing alternative crops for Nebraska's Panhandle, NU Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources researchers over the years developed a proso millet breeding program and tested sunflower and safflower varieties. This led to varieties that are particularly well-suited to the region and laid the scientific groundwork for expanded birdseed production. In addition to crop development and feasibility studies, IANR research and

Cooperative Extension staff met with owners of the Pennington Seed Co. and worked with Cheyenne County economic development staff to provide background information on these crops and the region's ability to produce them. The company opened its Sidney processing plant in the mid-1990s.

Impact:

This plant has created new jobs and economic activity for Sidney and provides a new, value-added market for farmers. It's estimated that birdseed production in Nebraska's Panhandle has increased by more than 100,000 acres since the plant opened. With a gross return of \$100 per acre, that additional acreage translates to a new market worth \$10 million annually. Integration of proso millet and sunflowers into the regions's dryland cropping rotation also helps stabilize financial return for Panhandle farmers by diversifying their crop base.

Funding:

Hatch Act

Smith-Lever 3 (b) and (c)

NU Agricultural Research Division & NU Cooperative Extension

Summary:

To create a value-added market for several alternative crops and aid community economic development, University of Nebraska worked with Cheyenne county to attract Pennington Seed Co., a grass and birdseed company, to Sidney, NE. Earlier NU Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources research led to proso millet, sunflower and safflower varieties that perform well in the region and laid the foundation for expanded birdseed production. In addition to crop development and feasibility studies, IANR research and extension staff met with seed company owners and provided Cheyenne County economic development staff with information on these crops and the region's ability to produce them. Since the Pennington Seed Co. plant opened in the mid-1990s, Panhandle birdseed production has increased by about 100,000 acres, which translates into a new market worth \$10 million annually. These new crops help Panhandle farmers diversify their crop base. The new plant also provides jobs and other economic benefits to the community.

Key Theme - Literacy

Ohio Combined Research and Extension

Description of Activities - The overall goal of the Read & Succeed pilot program is to design and implement literacy activities into new community-based programs and existing 4-H programming efforts in four Ohio counties, both rural and urban. Specifically, Extension staff sought to: 1) Increase the number of teen and adult volunteers involved in Extension coordinated literacy education programs; 2) Involve a minimum of 1,000 youth, grades K-4, in the four pilot counties; 3) Increase participating children's attitudes toward and interest in reading; and 4) Increase adult/older teen involvement in reading to/with participating children.

Impact - In Hancock County, Ohio, 65 percent of the youth, participating in a minimum of 20 hours of literacy activities, showed an improvement in attitude towards reading based on pre- and post-test results. 100 percent of participating school teachers have requested that volunteers return to their classrooms. Fifty-five additional volunteers have been recruited and nine new schools will be participating in the coming year. In Lorain County, pre-test results indicated that 62 percent of participants had read a book in the past week, compared to post-test (after 20 hours of participation) of 91 percent of youth having read a book in the past week. Additionally, pre-test results showed that 13 percent of youth were read to compared to post-test of 34 percent having a book read to them by a parent/adult in the past week. Pre- and post-test results show that 10 percent of youth increased their overall interest and attitude towards reading as a result of participating in the Read & Succeed program. During the 2000 school year, Ohio State University Extension staff and volunteers in Cuyahoga County provided book reading and small group activities to targeted grade levels in an elementary school. **55 percent of youth passed their reading proficiency tests in this grade level, during 2000, compared to 19 percent passing in 1999.** Participation in the Read & Succeed program may have provided additional support for these youth to be successful on annual proficiency tests. Pre- and post-test results on overall attitude and interest in reading remained consistent after the 20 hours of participation. In Belmont County, overall pre- and post-test results showed that students remained consistent in their interest and attitude towards reading. However, noticeable increases in youths active participation in reading, homework completion, and dialogue were documented.

Source of Federal Funding - Smith-Lever 3b&c

Scope of Impact - State Specific

New Jersey Combined Research and Extension

Activity: A county 4-H Agent worked collaboratively with the Federal work-study program to implement *Workforce Preparation – School to Work*, one of the National Initiatives for 4-H Youth Development. The America Reads Challenge is a national bi-partisan effort to help every child read independently by third grade. The America Reads/4-H program addresses the Workforce Preparation initiative in at least two ways: (1) college students are getting work experience and in some cases may actually make career goal changes because of their tutoring experiences, and (2) children must be able to read and do math to be prepared for the world of work.

The 4-H agent recruited and trained Federal work-study students who were placed as tutors of reading and math. The training consisted of 3 hours in a group session where tutors receive

instruction on how to plan lessons and techniques for tutoring the students. An additional 2 to 3 hours is required of the tutors to view tapes of actual tutoring sessions and instructions on how to use "The Phonics Game" to teach phonics. After training is completed, tutors are assigned students. The goal is to meet with same students at least one-half hour two times a week. Over 2,000 students (grades K-8) at Paul Robeson and Livingston Elementary Schools in New Brunswick were tutored in reading and math by federal work study students.

Impact: Teachers returned evaluations of the tutoring program. Thirty-two of the children receiving tutoring were in these teachers' classes. Eighty-four percent increased their interest in reading; 72% increased their enjoyment of reading, and 66% showed improvement in their reading skills.

Source of Funding: Smith Lever 3(b) & (c), Federal Work Study, and Local Board of Education

Scope of Impact: **State Specific**

Key Theme - Volunteer Development

New Mexico Combined Research and Extension

Increased retention of volunteers is a challenge. Adult leaders need options of how and when to be involved, as their priorities regarding volunteer, personal and work commitments change over time.

- b. Impacts -As a result of new organizational 4-H club leader orientation, 100% of those participating are engaged in supporting and conducting their 4-H clubs in the spirit and within the guidelines of the program.
 - As a result of new group leaders in 4-H special interest and school enrichment delivery modes receiving orientation, 100% of those participating key group leaders are engaged in supporting and conducting their 4-H groups in the spirit and within the guidelines of the program.
 - As a result of opportunities for 4-H leader education at county, multiple counties, district and state levels, 15% of 4-H leaders participated in training, resulting in increased involvement by club members, leaders and parents.
 - As a result of the 4-H Volunteer Recruitment Campaign, an increase of volunteers by 5% occurred, bringing new resources to the club, school enrichment and special interest programs.
 - As a result of increased first year retention of volunteers, stability of clubs and groups occurred, allowing for agent and paraprofessional efforts to be utilized in other areas of county 4-H programming.
 - With the development of job descriptions, volunteers are able to devote their skills and abilities to 4-H, where they may not have seen a place for them in the past.
- c. Source of Federal Funding -Smith Lever 3(b)(c)
- d. Scope of Impact -State Specific

Key Theme - Workforce Preparation

New Jersey Combined Research and Extension

Activity: Extension Family and Consumer Sciences education developed *Kids in Biz* (KIB), a 10-lesson workforce preparation program exposed 25 middle school aged youth to job/career options in the food industry. Youth from two Atlantic City Housing Authority communities participated in KIB after school. Kids were taught business basics, promotion and sales using the KIB curriculum guide. "Classes-on-the-move" heightened their awareness about the business of catering, fast food, and job options in the supermarket industry. A casino visit exposed them to the many jobs required to move food from the "platform to the plate".

Impact: Three components of the Secretary of Labor, Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) Workforce Preparation Model were achieved including Early Development (exposure to a variety of job and career opportunities); Awareness (structured exposure to community work environments); and Guided Exploration (extended visit and supervised experience in work environments). Additional impacts include:

- .. 100% of the youth developed two or more workplace competencies and skills
- .. 100% learned preparation skills and how to work in teams
- .. 100% developed their first resume
- .. 100% developed a business plan in addition to using marketing and sales basics
- .. 24 of 25 youth graduated (96%) – a significant accomplishment for adolescents who volunteered to attend an after school program
- .. Youth learned two or more nutrition and food safety concepts

Source of Funding: County and Private Funds, and Atlantic City Housing Authority

Scope of Impact: State Specific

Key Theme - Retirement Planning/Estate Planning

North Carolina Extension

- a. Thirty-two county Extension units submitted reports on efforts to accomplish the following objective, “Participants in aging issues programs will increase awareness, gain knowledge, change attitudes, develop skills, and adopt practices and behaviors to help make their later years more financially secure to include, but not limited to, financial planning, estate planning for individuals and family owned businesses, preparing for dependency, retirement planning, and consumer fraud against the elderly.
- b. Impacts:
Two thousand, seven hundred and thirty-nine participants improved financial status through adoption of consumer and financial management practices. A total of \$332,151 in increased saving and/or retirement contributions were generated. Seven hundred estate plans were developed and implemented. Seven hundred and two plans for possible future incompetency / dependency were developed.

Key Theme - Conflict Management

Overview:

The use of violence as a way to resolve conflict has become a norm accepted in our society. Every week 2 Arkansas youth aged 15-17 die from violence, 13 are arrested for violent crimes and 81 are arrested for alcohol/drug related crimes. But, the concept that violence is a learned behavior provides a strong incentive to prevent the development of violent behavior at an early age through life skills and prevention education programs.

Impact:

Output Indicators

- 626 Number of pro-social/violence prevention educational programs offered to children and youth.
- 151 Number of pro-social/violence prevention educational program offered to adults.
- 15713 Number of children and youth who participated in a pro-social/violence prevention program.
- 2863 Number of adults who participated in pro-social prevention program.
- 61 Number of pro-social/violence prevention educational resources developed.

Outcome Indicators

- 9907 Number of youth who report that they plan to adopt one or more recommended pro-social/violence prevention practices.
- 5605 Number of youth who report they have adopted one or more pro-social/violence prevention practices.
- 2904 Number of teachers, child care providers, parents, or other adults who report improved pro-social behaviors in youth who have participated in CES educational programs.
- 1057 Number of adults who report they plan to adopt one or more pro-social or non-violent recommended practices in dealing with children and youth.*
- 606 Number of adults who report they have adopted one or more pro-social or non-violent practices in dealing with children and youth.*

(*Recommended pro-social/violence prevention/non-violent practices include decision-making, anger management, stress management, conflict resolution, exhibiting helping behaviors, and esteem building.)

Source of Federal Funds: Smith Lever 3b and 3c

Scope of Impact: Arkansas

Key Theme - Agricultural Financial Management

Michigan Extension

Dairy production is becoming more technical each year. As herd size grows the need to fine tune management of cow nutrition, health, cow comfort and milking systems is required. In addition, management of the cropping program, labor and finances can determine the difference in a profitable farm. This educational program utilized multiple approaches to effect production practice changes and improve profitability as well as help dairy producers plan for business growth in the 21st Century. Annual financial analysis and FINANs were used to indicate levels of profitability for Telfarm dairy farms in SW Michigan.

Impact

Average savings by the tax estimator software was \$7,395 per farm for the 109 farms in the region. The Dairy Lines newsletter was mailed to 700 farms and agribusinesses in Dec and Feb. This newsletter was later judged as a national winning entry to the NACAA Communications awards.

Source of Funds

Smith-Lever 3b&c, state, county

Scope of Impact

Multi-State: IN